IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 5-6 without prejudice as follows:

Claims 1-6 (Canceled)

- 7. (Original) Signal encoder having an input for a signal to
- 2 be encoded, said signal encoder comprises a codebook entry selector
- 3 for selecting a codebook entry for obtaining a synthetic signal
- 4 giving a best approximation of a signal representative of the input
- 5 signal, the codebook entry comprises a plurality of samples that
- 6 can assume more than two values, said codebook entry being
- 7 identified with a sequence of symbols, characterized in that the
- 8 codebook entries corresponding to sequences of symbols differing in
- one particular symbol value, differ in one single sample value.
- 8. (Original) Decoder for decoding an encoded signal
- 2 comprising a sequence of symbols representative of a codebook entry
- 3 comprising a plurality of samples that can assume more than two
- 4 values, the receiver comprises a decoder with a codebook for

- 5 deriving the codebook entry from the received sequence of symbols
- 6 characterized in that the codebook entries corresponding to
- 7 sequences of symbols differing in one particular symbol value,
- 8 differ in one single sample value.
- 9. (Previously Presented) Transmission method comprising:
- selecting a codebook entry for obtaining a synthetic signal
- 3 giving an approximation of a signal representative of an input
- 4 signal, the codebook entry comprises a plurality of samples that
- 5 can assume more than two values, said codebook entry being
- 6 identified with a sequence of symbols;
- transmitting the sequence of symbols over a transmission
- 8 medium; and
- 9 receiving the sequence of symbols from the transmission medium
- and deriving the codebook entry from the received sequence of
- 11 symbols, wherein the codebook entries corresponding to sequences of
- 12 symbols that differ in one particular symbol value are associated
- with sample values that differ in one single sample value.

- 10. (Previously Presented) Encoding method comprising 1 selecting a codebook entry for obtaining a synthetic signal giving 2 an approximation of a signal representative of an input signal, the 3 codebook entry comprises a plurality of samples that can assume 4 more than two values, said codebook entry being identified with a 5 sequence of symbols, wherein the codebook entries corresponding to sequences of symbols that differ in one particular symbol value are 7 associated with sample values that differ in one single sample 8 value. 9
- 1 11.(Previously Presented) Decoding method for decoding an
 2 encoded signal comprising a sequence of symbols representative of a
 3 codebook entry comprising a plurality of samples that can assume
 4 more than two values, the decoding method comprises deriving the
 5 codebook entry from the sequence of symbols, wherein the codebook
 6 entries corresponding to sequences of symbols that differ in one
 7 particular symbol value are associated with sample values that
 8 differ in one single sample value.

- 1 12. (Previously Presented) A decoder for use in a transmission
- 2 system, the transmission system having a transmitter for
- 3 transmitting an encoded signal and a receiver for receiving said
- 4 encoded signal, said encoded signal having a sequence of symbols
- 5 representative of codebook entries comprising a plurality of
- 6 samples that can assume more than two values;
- wherein the decoder is located in the receiver and comprises:
- a codebook for deriving said codebook entries from said
- 9 sequence of symbols, wherein the codebook entries corresponding to
- 10 sequences of symbols differing in one particular symbol value,
- 11 differ in one single sample value.
- 1 13. (Previously Presented) The decoder of claim 12, wherein
- the difference between said sample values of codebook entries
- 3 corresponding to sequences of symbols differing in one particular
- 4 symbol value, is equal to a smallest quantization step of said
- 5 sample value.

- 1 14. (Previously Presented) The decoder of claim 12, wherein
- the number of possible sample values is odd.
- 1 15. (Previously Presented) The decoder of claim 12, wherein a
- 2 numerical value associated with a first codebook entry is equal to
- 3 the numerical value of the sequence of symbols of a second codebook
- 4 entry, and wherein the numerical value associated with the second
- 5 codebook entry is equal to the numerical value of the sequence of
- 6 symbols associated with the first codebook entry.
- 1 16. (Previously Presented) An encoder for use in a
- 2 transmission system, the transmission system having a transmitter
- 3 for transmitting an encoded signal; and a receiver for receiving
- 4 said encoded signal;
- said encoder comprising:
- a processor configured to form said encoded signal having
- 7 a sequence of symbols representative of codebook entries comprising
- 8 a plurality of samples that can assume more than two values;

- wherein the codebook entries corresponding to sequences
 of symbols differing in one particular symbol value, differ in one
 single sample value.
- 1 17. (Previously Presented) The encoder of claim 16, wherein
- the difference between said sample values of codebook entries
- 3 corresponding to sequences of symbols differing in one particular
- 4 symbol value, is equal to a smallest quantization step of said
- 5 sample value.
- 1 18. (Previously Presented) The encoder of claim 16, wherein
- the number of possible sample values is odd.
- 19. (Previously Presented) The encoder of claim 16, wherein a
- 2 numerical value associated with a first codebook entry is equal to
- 3 the numerical value of the sequence of symbols of a second codebook
- 4 entry, and wherein the numerical value associated with the second
- 5 codebook entry is equal to the numerical value of the sequence of
- 6 symbols associated with the first codebook entry.

- 20. (Previously Presented) The transmitter of claim 5, wherein
- the difference between said sample values of codebook entries
- 3 corresponding to sequences of symbols differing in one particular
- 4 symbol value, is equal to a smallest quantization step of said
- 5 sample value.
- 1 21. (Previously Presented) The transmitter of claim 5, wherein
- the number of possible sample values is odd.
- 1 22. (Previously Presented) The transmitter of claim 5, wherein
- 2 a numerical value associated with a first codebook entry is equal
- 3 to the numerical value of the sequence of symbols of a second
- 4 codebook entry, and wherein the numerical value associated with the
- 5 second codebook entry is equal to the numerical value of the
- 6 sequence of symbols associated with the first codebook entry.
- 23. (Previously Presented) The receiver of claim 6, wherein
- the difference between said sample values of codebook entries
- 3 corresponding to sequences of symbols differing in one particular

- symbol value, is equal to a smallest quantization step of said
- 5 sample value.
- 1 24. (Previously Presented) The receiver of claim 6, wherein
- the number of possible sample values is odd.
- 1 25. (Previously Presented) The receiver of claim 6, wherein a
- 2 numerical value associated with a first codebook entry is equal to
- the numerical value of the sequence of symbols of a second codebook
- entry, and wherein the numerical value associated with the second
- 5 codebook entry is equal to the numerical value of the sequence of
- 6 symbols associated with the first codebook entry.